# big NATE MAKES A SPLASH

by LINCOLN PEIRCE

*New York Times* Best-Selling Author

**Hey, kids!**

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by LINCOLN PEIRCE

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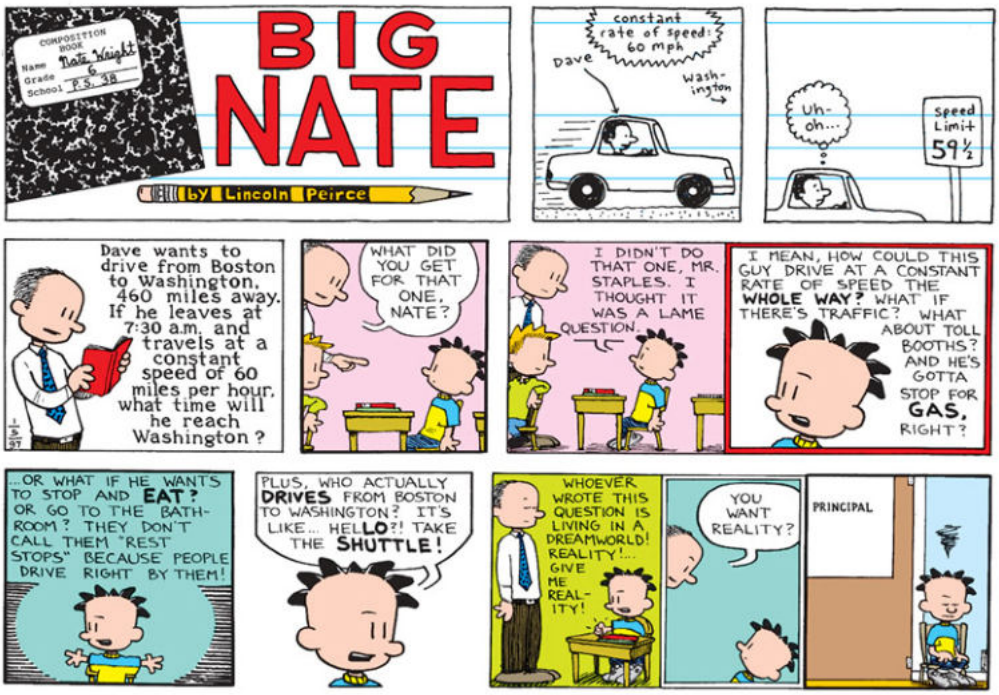
COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
Grade 6
School P.S. 38
BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
constant rate of speed: 60 mph
Dave
Wash-ington
Uh-oh...
Speed Limit 59½
Dave wants to drive from Boston to Washington, 460 miles away. If he leaves at 7:30 a.m. and travels at a constant speed of 60 miles per hour, what time will he reach Washington?
WHAT DID YOU GET FOR THAT ONE, NATE?
I DIDN'T DO THAT ONE, MR. STAPLES. I THOUGHT IT WAS A LAME QUESTION.
I MEAN, HOW COULD THIS GUY DRIVE AT A CONSTANT RATE OF SPEED THE WHOLE WAY? WHAT IF THERE'S TRAFFIC? WHAT ABOUT TOLL BOOTHS? AND HE'S GOTTA STOP FOR GAS, RIGHT?
...OR WHAT IF HE WANTS TO STOP AND EAT? OR GO TO THE BATHROOM? THEY DON'T CALL THEM "REST STOPS" BECAUSE PEOPLE DRIVE RIGHT BY THEM!
PLUS, WHO ACTUALLY DRIVES FROM BOSTON TO WASHINGTON? IT'S LIKE... HELLO?! TAKE THE SHUTTLE!
WHOEVER WROTE THIS QUESTION IS LIVING IN A DREAMWORLD! REALITY!... GIVE ME REAL-ITY!
YOU WANT REALITY?
PRINCIPAL

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
BOXCARS
SNAKE EYES
The New Craze That's Sweeping The Nation! It's...
ELLEN!
THE BOARD GAME!
START
Your boyfriend DUMPS you!
whatta you mean, "friends"?
LOSE A TURN!
After putting on makeup, you're mistaken for a clown!
Circus must be in town!
Go back one space!
You're constantly overshadowed by your charismatic younger brother!
ECLIPSE
Lose two turns!
You're promoted at work! YOWZA!
From now on, you'll be cleaning BOTH restrooms!
Gawrsh!
Move up three sp
Acne outbreak on school picture day!
Move your hands, kid.
Report to dermatologist!
You bring laughter to those around you!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
BONK!
A GAME? WHAT KIND OF GAME?
IT'S BRAND-NEW, BUT YOU'LL FEEL LIKE YOU'VE BEEN PLAYING IT YOUR WHOLE LIFE!

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
TWENTY SECONDS LEFT, WE'RE DOWN BY ONE, AND I HAVE THE BALL! THE OUTCOME OF THIS GAME IS UP TO ME!
I COULD PASS IT TO STAN, BUT HE'S MY MAIN COMPETITION FOR PLAYING TIME! WHY SHOULD I MAKE HIM LOOK GOOD?
THEN THERE'S RUSTY, THE MOST ANNOYING KID IN THE SIXTH GRADE! LIKE I'M REALLY GONNA GIVE HIM THE BALL!
DAN'S OPEN, BUT HE'S THE WORST SHOOTER OF ALL TIME! HE COULDN'T HIT THE OCEAN IF HE WAS STANDING ON THE BEACH!
...AND AM I GONNA GIVE UP THE BALL TO T.J., THE JERK WHO'S GOING OUT WITH THE GIRL OF MY DREAMS? I DON'T THINK SO!
I KNOW! I'LL JUST SHOOT MYSELF!...
SWAT!
...IN THE FOOT.
1/19

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
YOU KNOW ONE COOL THING ABOUT CARTOONING? THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF SPECIAL SYMBOLS YOU CAN USE!
Of course, everyone knows that a light bulb = IDEA!
100 watts
3 watts
If you're sawing wood, you're snoring!
Sweat beads and motion lines indicate
FEEAAR
In a good mood? Use these sicky-sweet symbols!
And when you're feeling down, you're LITERALLY under a cloud!
GLOOM
SLUMP
THIS IS COOL! WHAT OTHER SYMBOLS ARE THERE?
HMM... LET ME THINK...
THONK!

COMPOSITION BOOK
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
LOOK AT THAT...
AT WHAT?
2/2
ISN'T IT WEIRD HOW EVERYBODY SPLITS UP AT LUNCHTIME?
THE BOYS ALWAYS SIT OVER THERE, AND WE SIT OVER HERE!
WE DO EVERYTHING ELSE SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH BOYS... HOW COME WE DON'T EAT TOGETHER?
THERE'S NO GOOD REASON I CAN THINK OF! C'MON, LET'S GO!
HI, GUYS! MIND IF WE —
BRAAAAAP!
WA HA HA HA HA HA HEE HEE HA HA HA HA HA
HIGH-FIVE ME!
I THINK I BROKE THE SOUND BARRIER!
HERE! PUT THIS CARROT UP YOUR NOSE!

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
Grade 6
School P.S. 38
BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
BOOM THUMPA BOOM THUMPA BOOM BOOM
VALENTINE'S DAY
CHUCKA CHUCKA
dubba dubba
BOOM
wubba wubba
BOOM
THUMPA! THUMPA!
CHICKA BOOM CHICKA BOOM
THUMPA THUMPA

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
Grade 6
School P.S. 38
BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Bzzzzzz
English
Section 6-A
Assignment:
Conduct an interview with a friend, family member, or teacher on the subject of his or her job.
A CONVERSATION WITH MRS. CZERWICKI, DETENTION ROOM MONITOR
Me: Hi, Mrs. Czerwicki.
MC: Hello, Nate.
Me: How long have you been a detention monitor?
e-mail: drawnate@aol.com
MC: Well, that's actually only PART of my job. Officially, I'm a teacher aide.
Me: Whatever. How long have you been doing THAT, then?
MC: Twenty-three years.
Me: Twenty-three YEARS! Yow! How old are you?
MC: How old? Uh...
Me: What, like... seventy?
MC: NO. I'm not SEVENTY!
Me: Let's move along.
MC: Good idea.
Me: What's the funniest thing any kid ever did during school?
MC: Well... a student once wore pajamas to class...
Me: That's IT? What's so funny about THAT?
MC: Well, I thought it...
Me: What about that time I super-glued a dead fish inside the copy machine in the teachers lounge?
MC: That was YOU?
End of interview

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BIG NATE
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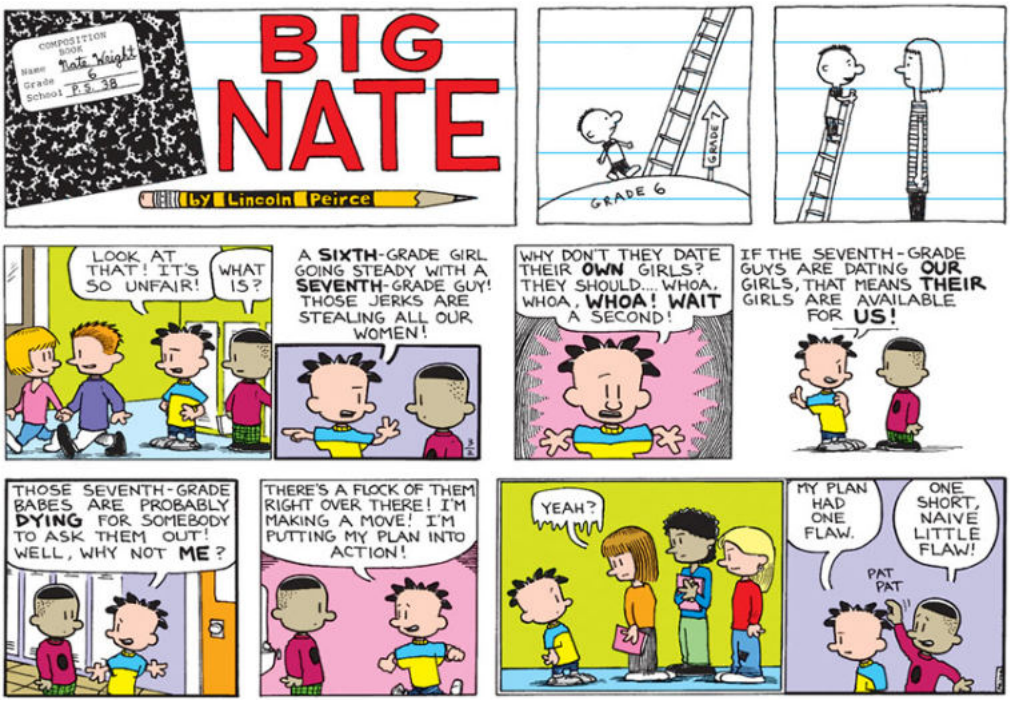
JORDAN 23
EWING 33
HARDAWAY 1
OLAJUWON 34
WRIGHT 0
COACH, WE HAVE A PROBLEM.
WE DO?
YOU KNOW THAT RESEARCH PAPER YOU ASSIGNED? IT'S DUE TOMORROW!
YES, I KNOW.
...BUT OUR BIG GAME AGAINST JEFFERSON IS TONIGHT!
NATE, I ASSIGNED THAT PAPER THREE WEEKS AGO! YOU SHOULD BE FINISHED!
WELL, YEAH, BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
THE POINT IS, WE'VE GOT TO BEAT JEFFERSON! THEY'RE OUR ARCH-RIVAL!
AS YOUR STARTING POINT GUARD, I HAVE TO FOCUS ON THE GAME! I CAN'T BE WORRYING ABOUT FINISHING SOME RESEARCH PAPER!
SO WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER, RIGHT, COACH?
WINK, WINK
OH, YES.
WE'RE WINNING!
SHUT UP.


COMPOSITION BOOK
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
GRADE 6
GRADE 7
LOOK AT THAT! IT'S SO UNFAIR!
WHAT IS?
A SIXTH-GRADE GIRL GOING STEADY WITH A SEVENTH-GRADE GUY! THOSE JERKS ARE STEALING ALL OUR WOMEN!
WHY DON'T THEY DATE THEIR OWN GIRLS? THEY SHOULD.... WHOA, WHOA, WHOA! WAIT A SECOND!
IF THE SEVENTH-GRADE GUYS ARE DATING OUR GIRLS, THAT MEANS THEIR GIRLS ARE AVAILABLE FOR US!
THOSE SEVENTH-GRADE BABES ARE PROBABLY DYING FOR SOMEBODY TO ASK THEM OUT! WELL, WHY NOT ME?
THERE'S A FLOCK OF THEM RIGHT OVER THERE! I'M MAKING A MOVE! I'M PUTTING MY PLAN INTO ACTION!
YEAH?
MY PLAN HAD ONE FLAW.
ONE SHORT, NAIVE LITTLE FLAW!
PAT PAT

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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
WAP! WAP! SLAP!
SNIFF! YOW! DID SOMETHING DIE?
Dan Cupid meets DAD!
an original Nate Wright comic!
Greetings, fellow fat bald guy!
Gawrsh! Dan Cupid!
You've been alone long enough, Dad! Let me pierce you with one of my "love darts"!
ka sproing!
Now I'll go find a woman, hit HER with a dart, and BINGO! Instant romance!
3/1
Oh, THERE you are, Dan!
What's up, gang?
We're all headed over to Cloud Nine!
Yeah! There's a big party!
Ooh! I'm there!
HOURS LATER...
Come on, Dan! We're flying over to Hollywood to find a gal for Keanu Reeves!
Hmm...
What's wrong, Dan?
I just can't shake the feeling that I'm FORGETTING something!
COME HERE OFTEN?
GET LOST.

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
MAN, WHAT A BREEZE! I AM TOTALLY ACING THIS TEST!
TRUE... FALSE... TRUE... TRUE... FALSE... TRUE... FALSE... FALSE... FALSE... FALSE...
WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S FOUR "FALSES" IN A ROW! THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT!
MAYBE SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS AREN'T AS EASY AS I THOUGHT...
THIS ONE COULD BE TRUE INSTEAD OF FALSE. ..AND SAME WITH THIS ONE... OOPS! HOLD IT!
scrub scrub scrub
NOW I'VE GOT TOO MANY TRUES IN A ROW! I'VE GOTTA BALANCE IT OUT HERE!... FALSE... TRUE... FALSE... TRUE... FALSE...
OH, NO! NOW THEY'RE IN PERFECT ALTERNATING ORDER! THAT'S GOT TO BE WRONG!
scrub scrub scrub
TRUE... FALSE... TRUE... TRUE... AGGH! THAT'S WHAT I WROTE DOWN IN THE FIRST PLACE!
erase erase erase
RRINNG!!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED ESSAY TEST ONCE IN A WHILE?
THERE ARE NO ESSAY TESTS IN MATH.
TRUE...

COMPOSITION BOOK
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
spilt milk
SOB!
HEY, JENNY!
OH, NO...
LONG TIME NO SEE!
OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND.
ABSENCE MAKES THE HEART GROW FONDER!
FAMILIARITY BREEDS CONTEMPT.
IT'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN LOVE AND HATE!
WAKE UP AND SMELL THE COFFEE.
SHE OUT-CLICHÉD ME.
C'EST LA VIE.

COMPOSITION BOOK
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
CELEB-RITY Chat!
with your host: BIFF BIFFWELL!
Hello again, friends! I'm here with today's VERY special guest... HOPSY the Easter Bunny! Hi, Hopsy!
You the man, Biff.
Hopsy, you've been hiding Easter eggs professionally for YEARS! What's the secret of your success?
Well, Biff, I don't mean to brag, but hiding eggs is an ART FORM! There's a lot of creativity involved!
You want to hide the eggs in unique locations!... Places where folks wouldn't think to look!
It's no fun for people if they find the eggs too EASILY! You've got to make them WORK a little bit!
So the object is to provide people with a challenge?
That's ONE object. Occasionally I DO have another agenda.
And that would be?
Comic relief!
SPLURCH!

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YES! Almost at the top!
MATH
TH
CONT'D.
I'M HANDING BACK YOUR TESTS GANG.
poink!
96!
FRANCIS! I GOT A 96! THAT'S MY HIGHEST SCORE EVER ON A MATH TEST!
I ALWAYS THOUGHT I WAS LOUSY AT MATH, BUT.... YOWZA! I MUST BE CATCHING ON!
A 96! WOW! CAN YOU...
THIS TEST WAS BASED ON A SCALE OF 140.
140?
YUP.
...SO THAT MEANS I GOT...
A NINETY-TWO!
YOU'RE GETTING WARMER.

COMPOSITION BOOK
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
I HATE GETTING DRESSED UP! THIS TIE IS STRANGLING ME!
SO YOU'VE SAID.
I WANT TO STAY HOME! DO WE HAVE TO GO TO CHURCH?
WE'RE GOING.
BUT ELLEN ISN'T GOING! HOW COME SHE GETS TO STAY HOME?
4/13
SHE'S GOT A TEST TO STUDY FOR.
# GRUMBLE # NONE OF MY FRIENDS GO TO CHURCH...
SEE? THERE'S TEDDY! HE'S PLAYING FOOTBALL!
GET IN THE CAR.
I'VE GOT TIME FOR ONE CATCH! TEDDY! TOSS IT HERE!
NO, NATE! WE'RE—
WUMP!
LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE STAYING HOME AFTER ALL...
FOR ABOUT THE NEXT MONTH.

COMPOSITION BOOK
Name Nate Wright
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School P.S. 38
BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Poink!
Poink!
Poink!
Poink!
Poink!
Poink!
Dance FEVER!
With your "poet-in-residence":
DAN CUPID!
Dan Cupid here! I'm (as you know) An expert on romance!
And where's the place where love e'er blooms? A rockin' 6th-grade DANCE!
A chaperone Of sorts am I. I float above the scene, And watch the writhing bodies fueled By sugar and caffeine!
There's Francis Dancing clumsily With Sheila. Ain't it sweet?
And Teddy's pseudo-disco moves Are really quite a "feet"!
trip!
The D.J.'s lame. The music stinks. But one thing can't be missed: The sight of Clueless teachers Trying hard to do the "twist."
Here's how to do it, kids!
Then every head Turns to the right As in the door Strolls NATE!
He's dashing! Handsome! Debonair! And fashionably late.
Ooooh! Aaaah!
He saunters toward A group of girls. A young Adonis, he.
Let's listen As he makes his move....
WHO WANTS TO DANCE?
NOT ME.

COMPOSITION BOOK
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BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
KA-CHING!
WE WERE TALKING ABOUT LEONARDO DA VINCI IN SCIENCE TODAY. MAN, WHAT A GENIUS!
DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE FOR SOMEBODY TO BE AN UNDISCOVERED GENIUS?
WHATTA YA MEAN?
I MEAN, DA VINCI WAS CLEARLY A GENIUS, AND EVERYBODY RECOGNIZED THAT, RIGHT?
YEAH...
BUT WHAT IF THERE WAS SOMEBODY OUT THERE WHO WAS JUST AS MUCH OF A GENIUS, EXCEPT NOBODY KNEW IT?
DOESN'T IT SEEM LIKELY THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO ARE GENIUSES, BUT WILL NEVER BE DISCOVERED?
THERE MIGHT EVEN BE ONE OF THEM AT OUR SCHOOL!
HEY, GUYS!
WHAT'S UP? TALKING ABOUT ME?
LET'S HOPE NOT.
HEY, WHAT HAPPENED IN SCIENCE TODAY? I FELL ASLEEP.

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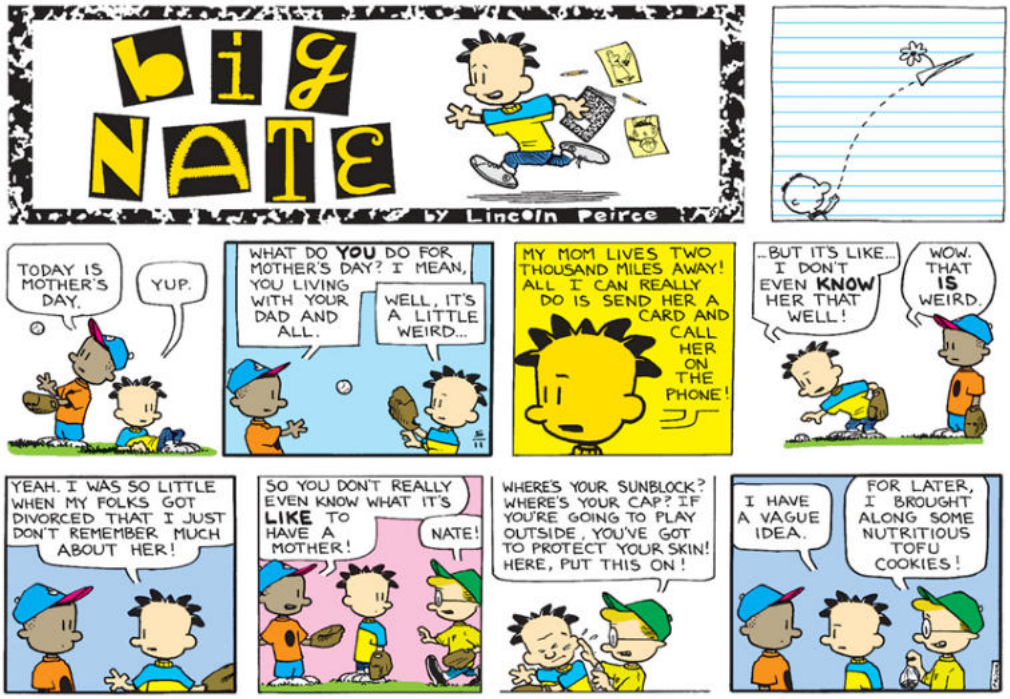
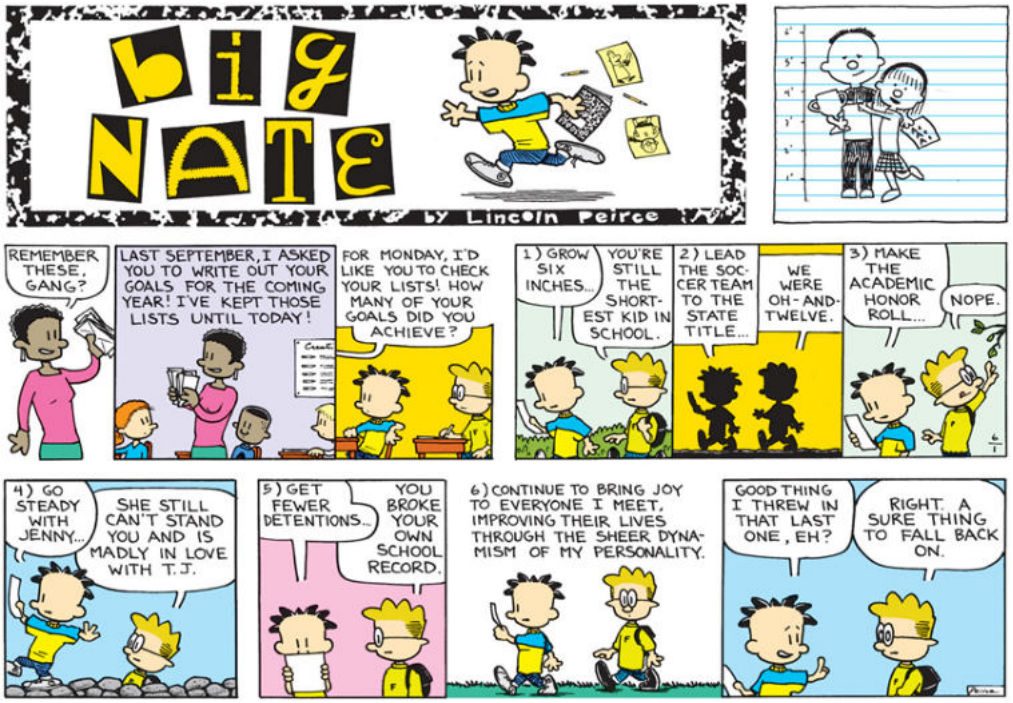
BIG NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Let's take a look!
X-Ray machine
math
Science
social studies
geeki-ness
other
HEY, EINSTEIN! WHAT'D YOU GET ON THE SCIENCE TEST? 100?
NOPE.
WELL, WHAT, THEN? A 99?
NO, NOT A 99.
98? 97? 96? 95? 94? 93? 92? 91? 90?
NONE OF THE ABOVE.
REALLY? 80 TO 89?
NO.
70 TO 79?
NO.
YOU DIDN'T EVEN GET A 70?? THEN... THEN YOU FAILED!
DID NOT
YOU FAILED AND I PASSED! THIS IS INCREDIBLE! HEY, TRY TO GUESS WHAT I GOT! GO AHEAD, TRY TO GUESS!
NATE, I DIDN'T FAIL.
THERE WAS AN EXTRA-CREDIT QUESTION. I GOT A 105.
FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I GOT A VERY RESPECTABLE EIGHTY-ONE!!


big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
TODAY IS MOTHER'S DAY.
YUP.
WHAT DO YOU DO FOR MOTHER'S DAY? I MEAN, YOU LIVING WITH YOUR DAD AND ALL.
WELL, IT'S A LITTLE WEIRD...
MY MOM LIVES TWO THOUSAND MILES AWAY! ALL I CAN REALLY DO IS SEND HER A CARD AND CALL HER ON THE PHONE!
...BUT IT'S LIKE... I DON'T EVEN KNOW HER THAT WELL!
WOW. THAT IS WEIRD.
YEAH. I WAS SO LITTLE WHEN MY FOLKS GOT DIVORCED THAT I JUST DON'T REMEMBER MUCH ABOUT HER!
SO YOU DON'T REALLY EVEN KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE A MOTHER!
NATE!
WHERE'S YOUR SUNBLOCK? WHERE'S YOUR CAP? IF YOU'RE GOING TO PLAY OUTSIDE, YOU'VE GOT TO PROTECT YOUR SKIN! HERE, PUT THIS ON!
I HAVE A VAGUE IDEA.
FOR LATER, I BROUGHT ALONG SOME NUTRITIOUS TOFU COOKIES!

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
The Continuing Adventures Of...
SUPERDAD!
The World's ONLY bald superhero with a slight paunch!
As our story opens, the mild-mannered DAD is enjoying a quiet day at home...
munch munch
Ooh! He left the B-pin. Bo!
... when SUDDENLY, his solitude is shattered by a cry of...
HELP!
Hark!
With superhuman speed and grace, DAD transforms himself into SUPERDAD, defender of the defenseless!
Dad streaks to the scene, where he encounters an act of unspeakable horror!
HELP! HELP!
Gasp!
Will SUPERDAD intervene? Will he leap to the rescue?
HELP!
NO! SUPERDAD turns and walks away! Oh, the callousness! Oh, the indifference!
I SAID HELP!
NOOGIE NOOGIE NOOGIE
YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
THERE IT IS: THE HATED DESK!
IT'S A CRIME, THE WAY THEY CHAIN US TO THESE THINGS ALL DAY!
HOW CONFINING CAN YOU GET? IT'S LIKE BEING TRAPPED IN A GLASS BOX!
THIS STINKS! I'M YOUNG! I'M ENERGETIC! THERE'S SO MUCH MORE I COULD BE DOING!
EVERY MINUTE, EVERY SECOND I SPEND AT THIS DESK IS A MOMENT WASTED!!
I'M LIKE A CAGED ANIMAL! I NEED TO GET UP! I NEED TO MOVE!... MOVE!
...MOVE...
MOVE.
Z
HMM?..


big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
REMEMBER THESE, GANG?
LAST SEPTEMBER, I ASKED YOU TO WRITE OUT YOUR GOALS FOR THE COMING YEAR! I'VE KEPT THOSE LISTS UNTIL TODAY!
FOR MONDAY, I'D LIKE YOU TO CHECK YOUR LISTS! HOW MANY OF YOUR GOALS DID YOU ACHIEVE?
1) GROW SIX INCHES...
YOU'RE STILL THE SHORTEST KID IN SCHOOL.
2) LEAD THE SOCCER TEAM TO THE STATE TITLE...
WE WERE OH-AND-TWELVE.
3) MAKE THE ACADEMIC HONOR ROLL...
NOPE.
4) GO STEADY WITH JENNY...
SHE STILL CAN'T STAND YOU AND IS MADLY IN LOVE WITH T.J.
5) GET FEWER DETENTIONS...
YOU BROKE YOUR OWN SCHOOL RECORD.
6) CONTINUE TO BRING JOY TO EVERYONE I MEET, IMPROVING THEIR LIVES THROUGH THE SHEER DYNAMISM OF MY PERSONALITY.
GOOD THING I THREW IN THAT LAST ONE, EH?
RIGHT. A SURE THING TO FALL BACK ON.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
PLINK!
ANOTHER GAME OF "SCRABBLE"?
NAH... LET'S DO SOMETHING ELSE.
HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
WHAT'S WHAT?
THIS! CAN I OPEN IT?
NO! STAY AWAY FROM THAT!
HOW COME?
JUST TRUST ME, TEDDY! YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!
BUT WHY?
YOU JUST DON'T! NOW LET'S BEAT IT BEFORE MY DAD SHOWS UP!
YOUR DAD? BUT...
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER! NOW COME ON! HURRY!
HELLO, BOYS! WELL! LOOK WHAT YOU FOUND!
MICHAEL, ROW THE BOAT ASHORRRE...
RUN. RUN!

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
A father's day POEM
for YOU, Dad!
from your son NATE
F is for the food that you are making. See the kitchen quickly fill with smoke.
FOOM!
A is for the aspirin you are taking as you pay the bills and see we're broke.
104
Dang! HELP!
T is for the treadmill in our cellar: You used it once, then claimed you'd hurt your heel.
H-E-R spells "her," a woman stellar. Will you ever date one? Let's get real.
HEY, DAD! WHAT RHYMES WITH "BALD"?
WHY CAN'T I HAVE A KID WHO JUST BUYS ME A TIE?
happy father's day!
pat pat

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
PLAY BALL!
73.4! 73.4!
THAT WAS MY AVERAGE IN SOCIAL STUDIES! 73.4!
EVEN THOUGH I WAS RIGHT 73.4 PERCENT OF THE TIME, I HAVE TO GO TO SUMMER SCHOOL!
THINK ABOUT IT! 73.4! THAT'S LIKE HAVING A .734 BATTING AVERAGE!
IF I HAD A .734 BATTING AVERAGE, I'D BE IN THE HALL OF FAME! I'D BE THE GREATEST BASEBALL PLAYER EVER!
BASEBALL AIN'T SOCIAL STUDIES.
STRIKE ONE!... STRIKE TWO!... STRIKE THREE!
...ALTHOUGH I DO SEE SIMILARITIES!
SHUT UP.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
300 FT.
chomp chomp chomp
FOO!
huff... huff...
huffffffff....
POW!
krak!
WAM!
TONK!
WOULD YOU CALL THAT AN ERROR?
A COMEDY OF THEM.
COACH

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
RRRRRIIINNNNGGG
HEY, DID YOU HEAR THAT?
WHAT?
THE SCHOOL BELL! WHEN THE WIND IS RIGHT, YOU CAN HEAR IT ALL THE WAY DOWN HERE!
EVEN WITH THE SCHOOL YEAR OVER, IT KEEPS RINGING ALL SUMMER!
...AND WE CAN IGNORE IT!
RIGHT! IT'S LOST ITS POWER OVER US!
IT CAN RING ALL IT WANTS AND NOT AFFECT US IN THE LEAST!
RRRRRIIINNNNGGG
SIIIIIIIIGH
RRRRIINNNGG
SIIIIIIGH...
SUMMER SCHOOL BEGINS JULY

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
the "Wright express"
BATTER UP!
OH HO! LOOK WHO'S UP! T.J.! THE GUY WHO STOLE JENNY AWAY FROM ME!
GET A LOAD OF MISTER SUPERSTAR HERE! HE THINKS HE'S SO GREAT!
WELL, HERE'S MY CHANCE TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT I AM THE BETTER MAN!
LET'S SEE... I COULD MAKE HIM LOOK BAD WITH MY DEVASTATING KNUCKLE-CURVE...
I COULD OVERPOWER HIM WITH MY AWESOME FAST-BALL... OR RING HIM UP WITH MY AMAZING SLIDER...
I COULD BLOW MY SPLIT-FINGER BY HIM... BAFFLE HIM WITH MY CHANGE-UP...
YES, I COULD HUMILIATE HIM IN ANY ONE OF A DOZEN WAYS!
zing!
PLUNK!
...BUT I'M JUST NOT THAT KIND OF GUY!
OW!

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Dear Grandma,
Sorry I have not written to you lately. The reason for that is: I am stuck in summer school and have been totally busy. What a drag.
Sigh..
Me
Wheee!
HA HA
frolicksome friends
"How did a genius like Nate end up in summer school?" you are probably asking. Well, that is the eternal question. What an INJUSTICE!
(note: out of place)
Of course, the person behind this whole sorry episode is Mrs. Godfrey. Her personal vendetta against me CONTINUES!
Yikes!
She is still the same as she was the last time I wrote you. She picks on me, she yells at me, she claims I don't pay attention in class.
evil eye in back of head
It is so unfair. The woman totally HATES me! Why she constantly singles ME out for criticism, I have no idea.
TIME, PEOPLE! HAND IN THOSE TESTS!
Well, gotta go...
7/20

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
N.F.T.
NATE
FRANCIS
EDDY
YARDCARE!
"commitment to excellence"
HI, GUYS! WHAT'S UP?
WE JUST DID MRS. WINSLOW'S LAWN.
HOW MUCH DID SHE PAY?
THE USUAL... FIFTEEN BUCKS.
FIVE BUCKS FOR EACH OF US, EH?
WHAT?
"US"?
THIS MONEY'S OURS, NATE! YOU WERE SITTING IN SUMMER SCHOOL WHILE "N.F.T. YARDCARE" WAS WORKING!
HEY, THE "N" IN "N.F.T. YARDCARE" STANDS FOR NATE, IN CASE YOU FORGOT!
SO DOES THAT MEAN YOU SHOULD BE PAID FOR WORK YOU DIDN'T DO?
WELL, WHEN PEOPLE MISS WORK BECAUSE THEY'RE SICK, THEY STILL GET PAID!
THAT'S DIF-FERENT!
NO, IT'S NOT! WE'VE ALWAYS SHARED OUR PROFITS EVENLY!
I DESERVE MY CUT! GIVE ME MY CUT!
HOW'D YOU GET ALL THESE CUTS?
LAWN-MOWER ACCIDENT.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
BASEBALL IS A GAME OF DECISIONS!
EACH GAME, EACH INNING CONSISTS OF DOZENS OF DECISION-MAKING SITUATIONS!
THE CHALLENGE IS TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION!
MENTAL PREPARATION! THAT'S KEY! YOU'VE GOT TO CONSTANTLY ASK YOURSELF: "WHAT WILL I DO IF THE BALL IS HIT TO ME?"
THEN IT BECOMES SECOND NATURE TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION IN A SPLIT SECOND!
CRAK!
TRIP!
SELECT ONE:
A.) PICK SELF UP, DUST SELF OFF.
B.) ADMIT MISTAKE, MOVE ON.
C.) FAKE INJURY, SAVE FACE.
OOOOOH..
YOU OKAY, MAN?

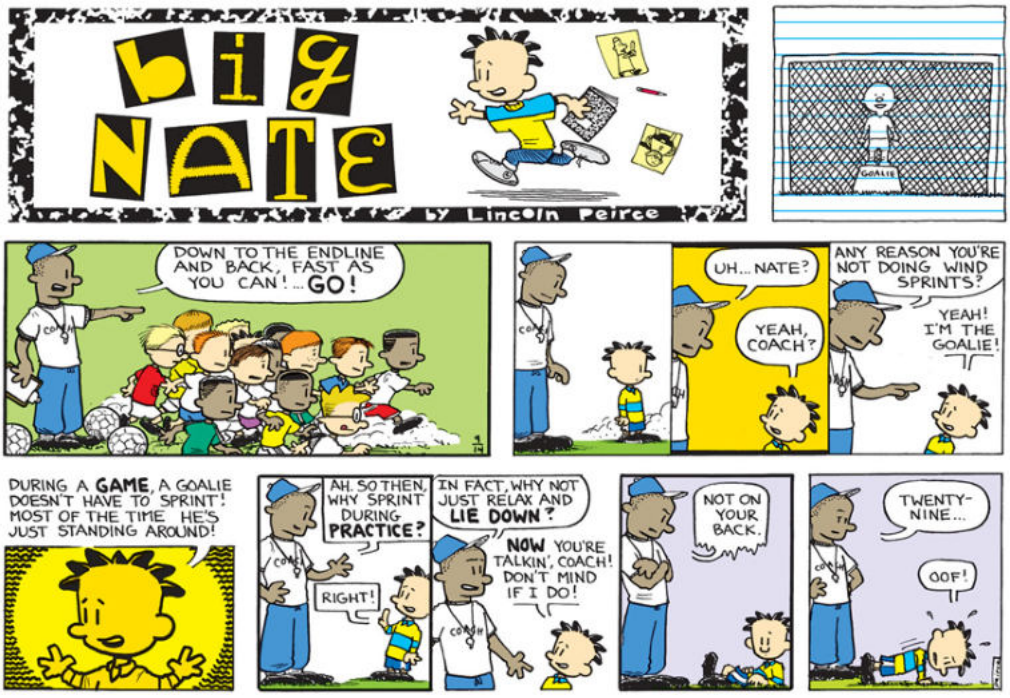
big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
"FEELINGS"
with your host:
Dr. Warren Fruzzy
Greetings, friends! You know, we spend so much time exploring our INNER lives that we sometimes forget to examine what's on the SURFACE!
Yes, the way we LOOK can often hold the key to how we FEEL about ourselves!
Specifically, an outrageous appearance sometimes masks an emotional life in TURMOIL!
Dennis Rodman
That's right! Crazy clothes and over-the-top outfits are much MORE than a simple fashion statement!...
They're a CRY FOR HELP! These poor souls need our compassion! Our understanding! Our companionship!
BEACH?
YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
NO, THAT'S NOT RIGHT...
hee hee hee hee hee
THAT SOUNDS STUPID.
HO HO HO HO HO HO
DANG! I CAN'T COME UP WITH A LAUGH THAT'S ANY GOOD!
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA H HA HA H
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
AH, THE SOUND OF CHILDREN'S LAUGHTER!...
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HEY!... OW! OW OW OW!

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
SLIP!
HEY, LET'S PLAY BALL!
NOT NOW. I'M DRAWING COMICS.
HEE HEE! SEE? DOCTOR CESSPOOL IS REMOVING HIS OWN TONSILS BY MISTAKE!
I DON'T GET IT.
WHATTA YOU MEAN, YOU DON'T GET IT? IT'S SLAPSTICK!
PEOPLE SLIPPING ON BANANA PEELS, GETTING HIT IN THE FACE WITH PIES... THAT SORT OF STUFF IS FUNNY!
WHY?
WHO KNOWS? I GUESS IT'S JUST FUNNY TO SEE PEOPLE SUFFER MINOR INJURIES!
BONK!
BY GOLLY, YOU'RE RIGHT!

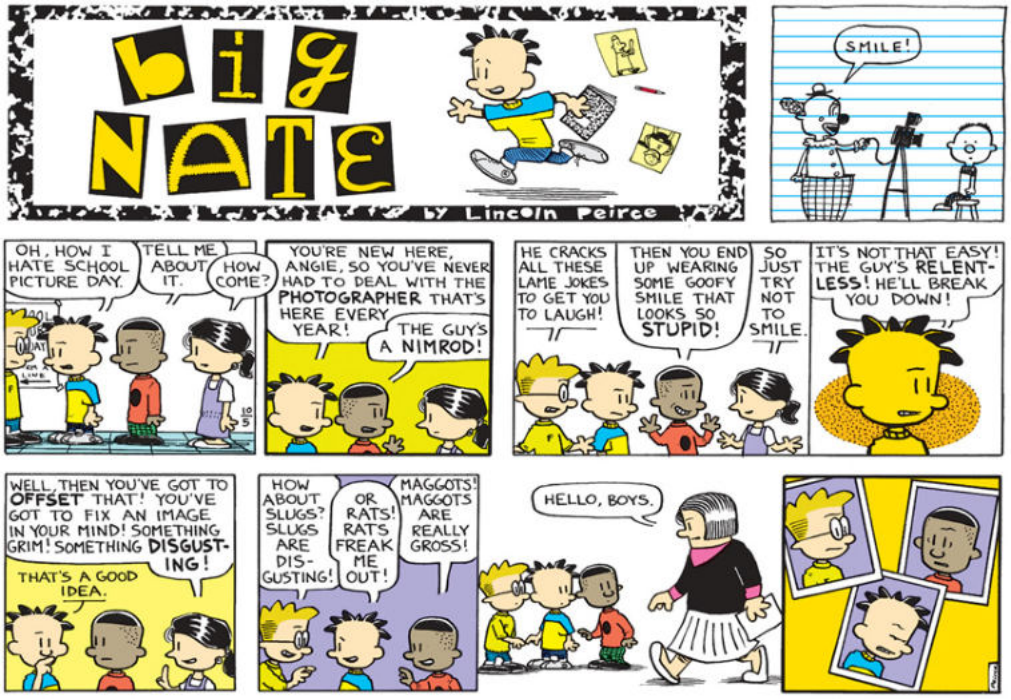
big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Roll those dice!
It's time to play..
NATE
THE BOARD GAME!
START
SUMMER VACATION! YOWZA!
MOVE AHEAD 3 SPACES!
You make the Little League All-Star Team!
Dang! What a SHOT!
voice of Ken Griffey Jr.
COLLECT SALARY BONUS!!
You create multi-billion dollar cartoon character!
He's called "Filbert"!
You're a genius!
TAKE EXTRA TURN!
Your sister discovers she's adopted, returns to birth parents!
YOU WIN LOTTERY!!
Let's face it: you are one good-looking guy!
SWOON!
YAWN..
CLICK!
paparazzi
You receive modeling contract!
OH NO!
STOP
STOP
REPORT DIRECTLY TO "CORRIDOR OF DOOM"!
WELCOME BACK STUDE
SIGH..

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
G O !
WELL, THIS IS ABSOLUTELY THE LAST TIME I TAKE THE KIDS TO A BALL GAME!
FIFTEEN BUCKS FOR PARKING... TWENTY-DOLLAR SEATS... NOT TO MENTION THE OUT-RAGEOUS FOOD PRICES!
PLUS, THE HOME TEAM'S LOSING BY EIGHT RUNS!
THE NEXT TIME I — OH, FOR PETE'S SAKE!
I JUST DUMPED MY CHILI DOG ALL OVER MY LAP!
WELL, THAT'S PAR FOR THE COURSE! WHAT ELSE COULD HAPPEN TO MAKE THIS DAY WORSE?
HEY, DAD! CHECK OUT THE JUMBO-TRON!
HUH?
COLA
ACME

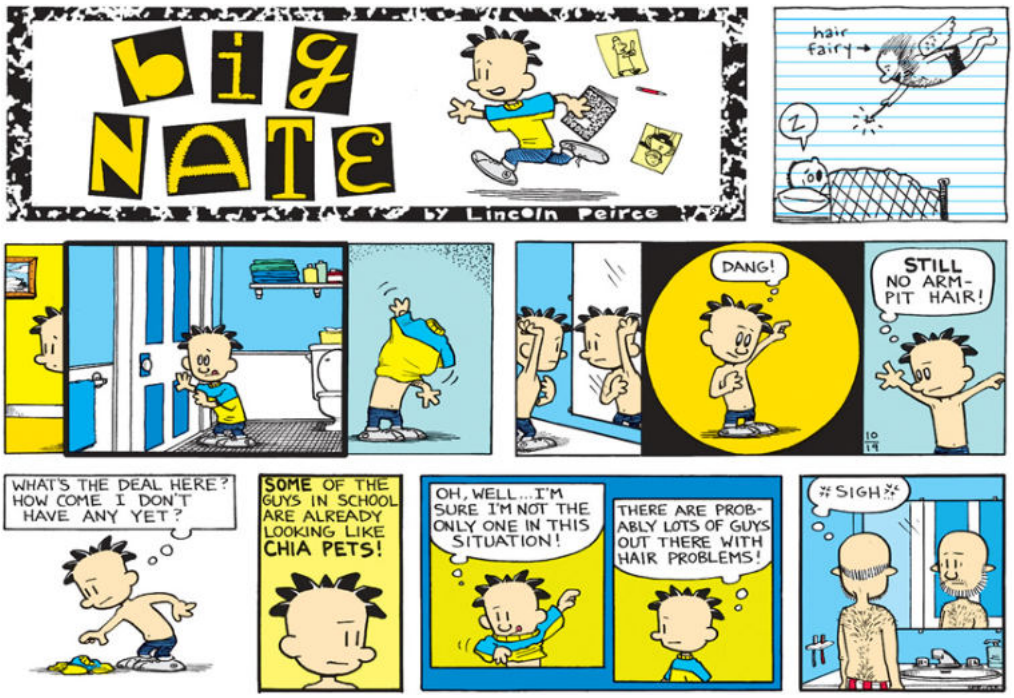

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
GOALIE
DOWN TO THE ENDLINE AND BACK, FAST AS YOU CAN!... GO!
UH... NATE?
YEAH, COACH?
ANY REASON YOU'RE NOT DOING WIND SPRINTS?
YEAH! I'M THE GOALIE!
DURING A GAME, A GOALIE DOESN'T HAVE TO SPRINT! MOST OF THE TIME HE'S JUST STANDING AROUND!
AH, SO THEN, WHY SPRINT DURING PRACTICE?
RIGHT!
IN FACT, WHY NOT JUST RELAX AND LIE DOWN?
NOW YOU'RE TALKIN', COACH! DON'T MIND IF I DO!
NOT ON YOUR BACK.
TWENTY-NINE...
OOF!

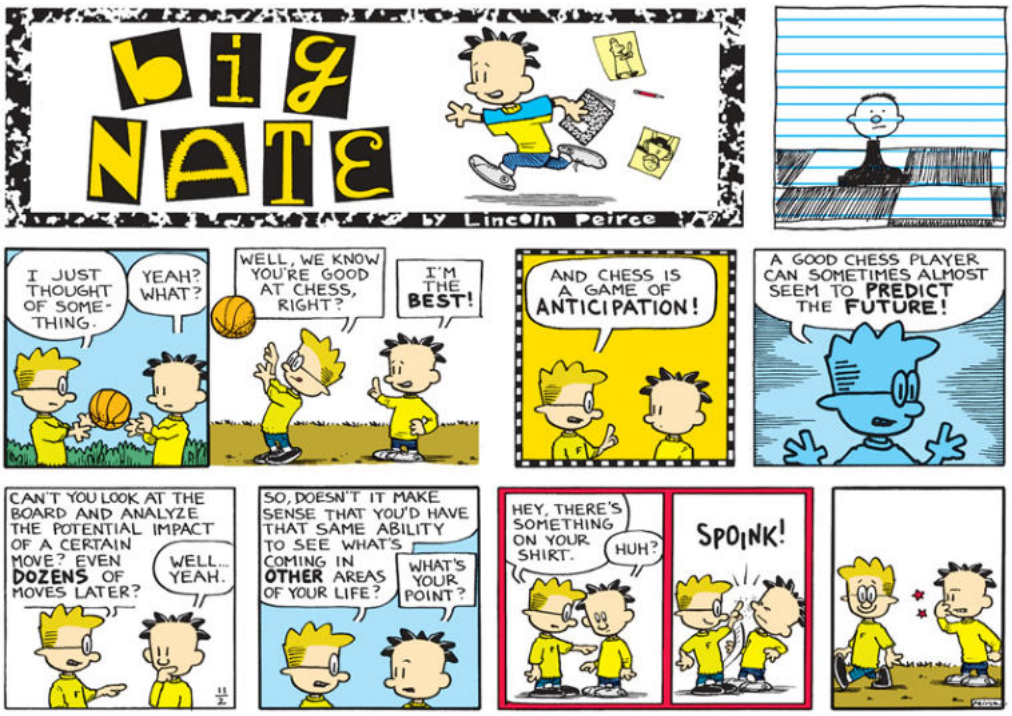
big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Time Once Again To Play...
"WHO THE HECK AM I?"
America's FAVORITE Game Show!!
with your host: KEN DOLITTLE!!
Hello again, folks! Let's welcome our celebrity panel AND... our first MYSTERY GUEST!
APPLAU
Hi, Ken.
Now, Mystery Guest... Give us some clues to help unlock your SECRET IDENTITY!
Well, Ken... I'm 15 years old... I have bleached-blonde hair...
Mmm Hmm... Any other identifying features?
Uh... do pimples count?
HA! HA! HA! HA!
Chuckle!
Ah-HA! Our Mystery Guest has a sense of humor!
Not really. But I DO often say things that are UNINTENTIONALLY funny due to my lack of intelligence and lame social skills!
VERY interesting! Okay, let's move on! How would your FRIENDS describe you?
Friends?
HA HA! WOW! Are you as stumped as I am, panel? This is one of the most BAFFLING Mystery Guests we've ever HAD!
GUESS WHO.
UH-OH...

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
doof!
WHAT A GAME! FIVE TO ZIP!
YUP! I WAS AMAZING OUT THERE TODAY!
WE ALL WERE, NATE! IT WAS A TEAM VICTORY!
YEAH, BUT WHO'S THE STAR OF THE TEAM? ME!
I WAS A STONE WALL! I STOPPED EVERYTHING THEY SENT MY WAY!
BUT THE REST OF US SCORED FIVE GOALS!
SO WHAT? IT ALL STARTS WITH GOAL-TENDING!
LET'S FACE FACTS, GUYS: AS GOALIE, I AM THE BACKBONE OF THE TEAM!
WEDGIE.
NO! HEY! HELP!
FOR A BACKBONE, HE'S SURPRISINGLY SPINELESS.

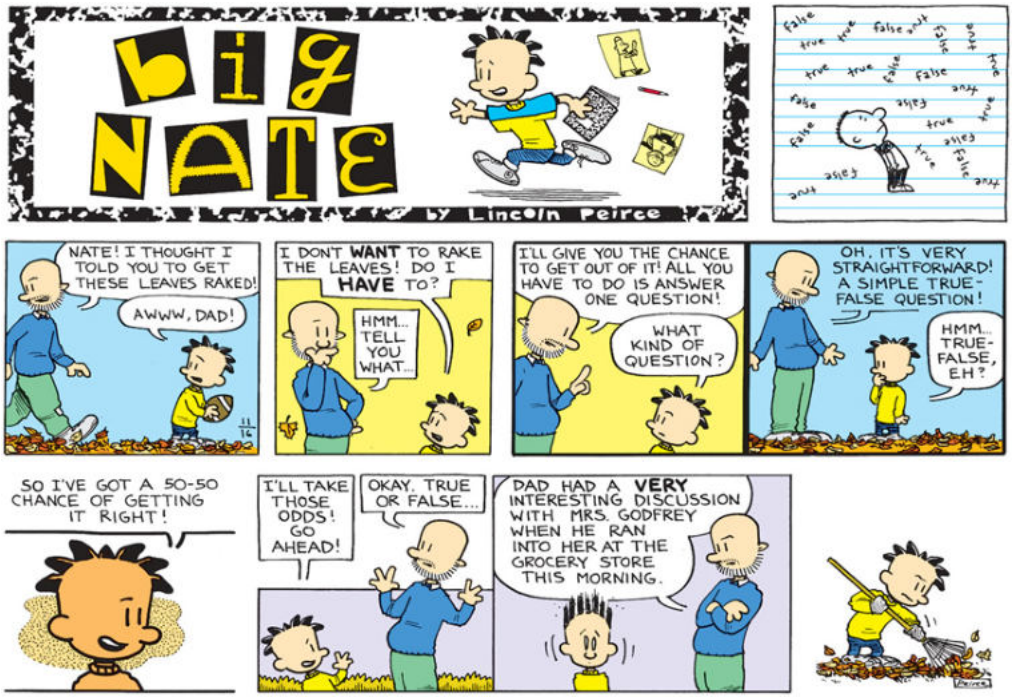

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
SMILE!
OH, HOW I HATE SCHOOL PICTURE DAY.
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
HOW COME?
YOU'RE NEW HERE, ANGIE, SO YOU'VE NEVER HAD TO DEAL WITH THE PHOTOGRAPHER THAT'S HERE EVERY YEAR!
THE GUY'S A NIMROD!
HE CRACKS ALL THESE LAME JOKES TO GET YOU TO LAUGH!
THEN YOU END UP WEARING SOME GOOFY SMILE THAT LOOKS SO STUPID!
SO JUST TRY NOT TO SMILE.
IT'S NOT THAT EASY! THE GUY'S RELENTLESS! HE'LL BREAK YOU DOWN!
WELL, THEN YOU'VE GOT TO OFFSET THAT! YOU'VE GOT TO FIX AN IMAGE IN YOUR MIND! SOMETHING GRIM! SOMETHING DISGUSTING!
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
HOW ABOUT SLUGS? SLUGS ARE DISGUSTING!
OR RATS! RATS FREAK ME OUT!
MAGGOTS! MAGGOTS ARE REALLY GROSS!
HELLO, BOYS.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
SPLAT!
Nate Wright's O-FFICIAL 1997 6th grade HOT and COLD Guide! "★★★★"
HOT: Mr. Galvin!
Let's turn to pg. Zzz...
He fell asleep again!
High-five me!
COLD: Duh.
I summon thee, demons of darkness!
Dang!
She's goin' postal!
HOT: Slides (recess)
WA-HOO!
10/12
COLD: Slides (biology)
Here's another example of cell division...
Sigh...
HOT: Hangin' out by your locker!
What's happenin', ladies?
♡ Hiiiiiii
COLD: Hangin' out WITH your locker!
You are my only friend! SOB!
HOT: Bringing your own lunch from home!
Hey, HEY! Pizza and chips again!
HOW'S THE MEAT-LOAF?
COLD.
WHY DON'T YOU JUST BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH?

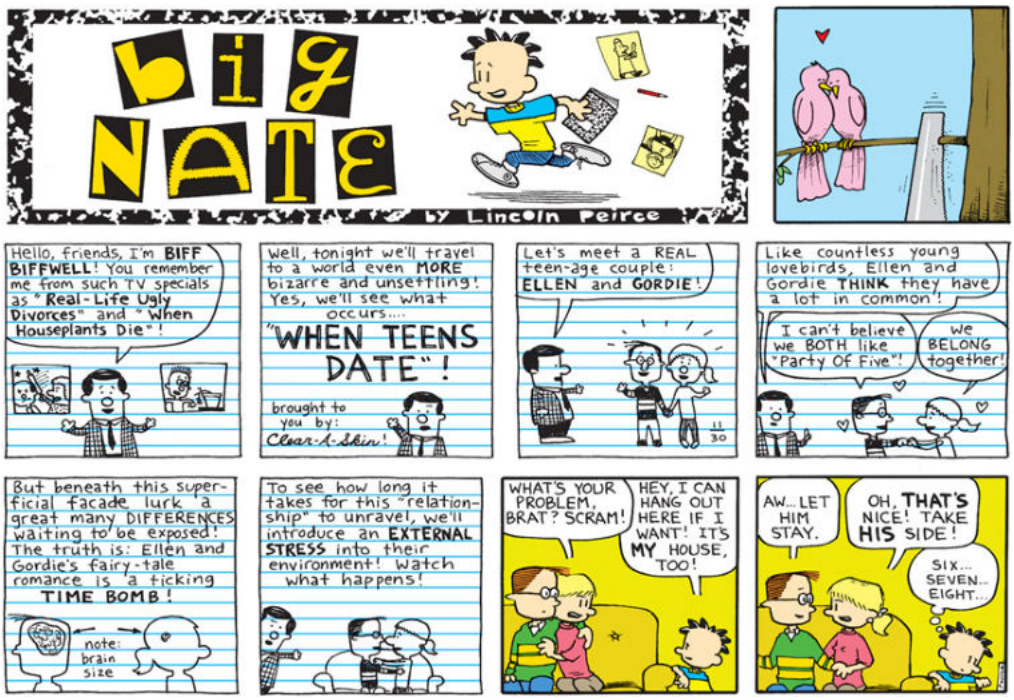

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
hair fairy
DANG!
STILL NO ARM-PIT HAIR!
WHAT'S THE DEAL HERE? HOW COME I DON'T HAVE ANY YET?
SOME OF THE GUYS IN SCHOOL ARE ALREADY LOOKING LIKE CHIA PETS!
OH, WELL... I'M SURE I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE IN THIS SITUATION!
THERE ARE PROBABLY LOTS OF GUYS OUT THERE WITH HAIR PROBLEMS!
*SIGH*


big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING.
YEAH? WHAT?
WELL, WE KNOW YOU'RE GOOD AT CHESS, RIGHT?
I'M THE BEST!
AND CHESS IS A GAME OF ANTICIPATION!
A GOOD CHESS PLAYER CAN SOMETIMES ALMOST SEEM TO PREDICT THE FUTURE!
CAN'T YOU LOOK AT THE BOARD AND ANALYZE THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF A CERTAIN MOVE? EVEN DOZENS OF MOVES LATER?
WELL... YEAH.
SO, DOESN'T IT MAKE SENSE THAT YOU'D HAVE THAT SAME ABILITY TO SEE WHAT'S COMING IN OTHER AREAS OF YOUR LIFE?
WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
HEY, THERE'S SOMETHING ON YOUR SHIRT.
HUH?
SPOINK!

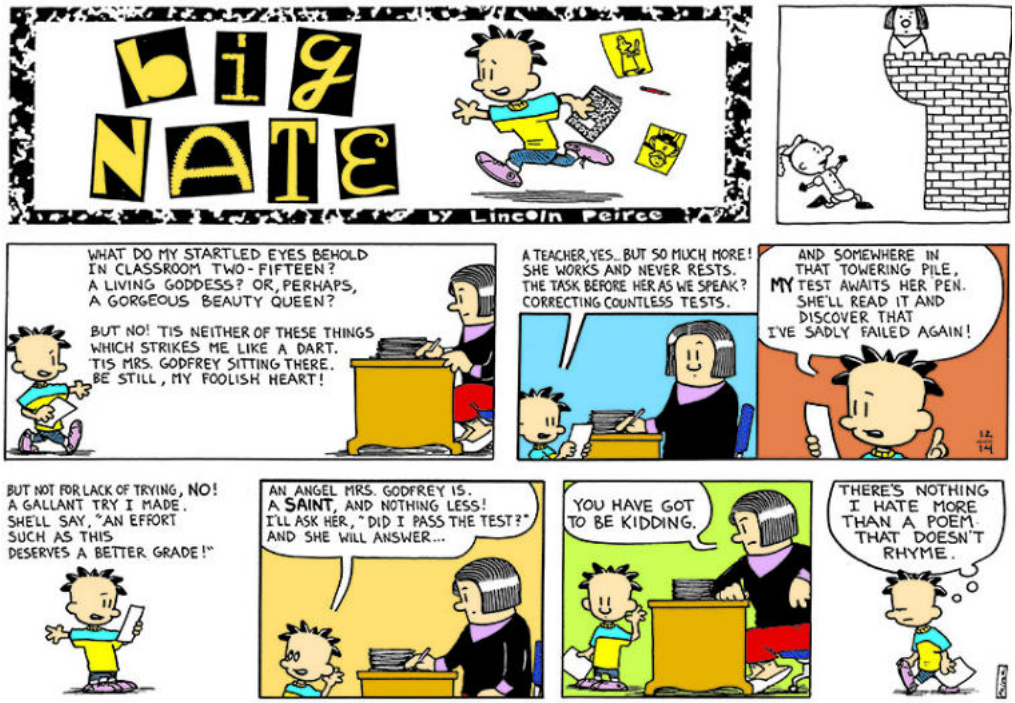
big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
CELEB-RITY Chat!
Here's your host: BIFF BIFFWELL!
Hello, friends! I'm here once again with our old friend... DAN CUPID!
Howdy-ho, Biff!
Dan, I understand that today you'll be attempting something quite CHALLENG-ING!
Right you are!
I'll be trying to find a mate for every-one's favorite lonely bachelor... DAD!
What's the first step, Dan?
The first step is simply to fly around, looking for single women in Dad's general area!
Then, when you spot a likely prospect, you simply take aim.. and FIRE!
SPROING!
Sounds fool-proof!
Oops! No, it's not fool-proof, Biff. In fact, I've just made a rather serious mistake.
What kind of mistake?
Bad aim. Ever heard that phrase, "puppy love"?
HEY! HEY! NO! DOWN!
CAN WE KEEP HIM, DAD? CAN WE KEEP HIM?


big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
NATE! I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO GET THESE LEAVES RAKED!
AWWW, DAD!
I DON'T WANT TO RAKE THE LEAVES! DO I HAVE TO?
HMM... TELL YOU WHAT...
I'LL GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO GET OUT OF IT! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ANSWER ONE QUESTION!
WHAT KIND OF QUESTION?
OH, IT'S VERY STRAIGHTFORWARD! A SIMPLE TRUE-FALSE QUESTION!
HMM... TRUE-FALSE, EH?
SO I'VE GOT A 50-50 CHANCE OF GETTING IT RIGHT!
I'LL TAKE THOSE ODDS! GO AHEAD!
OKAY. TRUE OR FALSE...
DAD HAD A VERY INTERESTING DISCUSSION WITH MRS. GODFREY WHEN HE RAN INTO HER AT THE GROCERY STORE THIS MORNING.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Turbo Toss
TURBO
BALL
TURBO BA
TURBO


big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
Hello, friends, I'm BIFF BIFFWELL! You remember me from such TV specials as "Real-Life Ugly Divorces" and "When Houseplants Die"!
Well, tonight we'll travel to a world even MORE bizarre and unsettling! Yes, we'll see what occurs....
"WHEN TEENS DATE"!
brought to you by: Clear-A-Skin!
Let's meet a REAL teen-age couple: ELLEN and GORDIE!
11/30
Like countless young lovebirds, Ellen and Gordie THINK they have a lot in common!
I can't believe we BOTH like "Party Of Five"!
We BELONG together!
But beneath this superficial facade lurk a great many DIFFERENCES waiting to be exposed! The truth is: Ellen and Gordie's fairy-tale romance is a ticking TIME BOMB!
note: brain size
To see how long it takes for this "relationship" to unravel, we'll introduce an EXTERNAL STRESS into their environment! Watch what happens!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, BRAT? SCRAM!
HEY, I CAN HANG OUT HERE IF I WANT! IT'S MY HOUSE, TOO!
AW... LET HIM STAY.
OH, THAT'S NICE! TAKE HIS SIDE!
SIX... SEVEN... EIGHT...

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
OKAY, GUYS. HIT THE SHOWERS.
COACH, WE NEED TO TALK.
WE DO?
HOW COME YOU NEVER LET ME HAVE THE BALL AT "CRUNCH TIME"?
WHENEVER WE GET TO THE END OF A CLOSE GAME, YOU ALWAYS LET SOMEBODY ELSE TAKE THE LAST SHOT!
I'LL NEVER HAVE A CHANCE TO BE A HERO UNLESS I HAVE THE BALL IN MY HANDS AT A CRITICAL TIME!
OKAY, NATE, I HEAR YOU. I'LL PUT THE BALL IN YOUR HANDS.
REALLY? AT A CRITICAL TIME?
ABSOLUTELY. WITHOUT YOU, NATE, WE'LL HAVE NO CHANCE TO WIN THE GAME!
WOW!
"INFLATE TO 8 LBS."


big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
WHAT DO MY STARTLED EYES BEHOLD IN CLASSROOM TWO-FIFTEEN? A LIVING GODDESS? OR, PERHAPS, A GORGEOUS BEAUTY QUEEN?
BUT NO! 'TIS NEITHER OF THESE THINGS WHICH STRIKES ME LIKE A DART. 'TIS MRS. GODFREY SITTING THERE. BE STILL, MY FOOLISH HEART!
A TEACHER, YES... BUT SO MUCH MORE! SHE WORKS AND NEVER RESTS. THE TASK BEFORE HER AS WE SPEAK? CORRECTING COUNTLESS TESTS.
AND SOMEWHERE IN THAT TOWERING PILE, MY TEST AWAITS HER PEN. SHE'LL READ IT AND DISCOVER THAT I'VE SADLY FAILED AGAIN!
12-14
BUT NOT FOR LACK OF TRYING, NO! A GALLANT TRY I MADE. SHE'LL SAY, "AN EFFORT SUCH AS THIS DESERVES A BETTER GRADE!"
AN ANGEL MRS. GODFREY IS. A SAINT, AND NOTHING LESS! I'LL ASK HER, "DID I PASS THE TEST?" AND SHE WILL ANSWER...
YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KIDDING.
THERE'S NOTHING I HATE MORE THAN A POEM THAT DOESN'T RHYME.

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
coal
MRS. GODFREY
It's the P.S. 38 Christmas WISH LIST!
with your hosts:
BIFF BIFFWELL & CHIP CHIPSON
Hello again, Christmas shoppers! Wondering what some of the 6th-grade teachers at P.S. 38 would like as gifts?
Let's take a look, Biff!
Here's MR. GALVIN, the biology teacher!
How about a new cap for his fountain pen?
Mrs. Blosser, cafeteria monitor?...
...A pair of size 12 triple-E golf shoes!
SLIPPA SLIPPA SLIPPA
COACH CALHOUN, hoops guru, would like...
... a MEGAPHONE!
PASS the ball! PASS it!... Hey! NO! DON'T SHOOT!.. I said DON'T... Dag-nab it!
What does Mr. Staples, the math teacher, need?
How about a life?
...and then the duck says to the camel: "No, I said a HEXAGON!" Ha Ha! Hee!
...And now how about MRS. GODFREY social studies teacher?
Good question, Biff! What will SHE ask for this Christ-mas?
YOUR RESEARCH PAPER, PLEASE.
OH, WAS THAT DUE TODAY?

big NATE
by Lincoln Peirce
F
SHED
HOUSE
GARAGE
N
PSST! TEDDY!
WOW! LOOK AT ALL THOSE SNOWBALLS!
SSH! I DON'T WANT FRANCIS TO HEAR US!
HAVING A SNOWBALL FIGHT WITH FRANCIS, EH?
"FIGHT"? THIS IS NO MERE FIGHT!
A FIGHT IS JUST A COUPLE GUYS HUCKING SNOWBALLS AT EACH OTHER! THIS IS OUT-AND-OUT WARFARE!
THERE'S REAL STRATEGY INVOLVED HERE! WE'VE GOT HEADQUARTERS! WE'VE GOT BATTLE PLANS!
WE'VE GOT CACHES OF AMMO! DEMILITARIZED ZONES! TRENCHES! FOX-HOLES! BOOBY TRAPS!
POW!
...DOUBLE AGENTS!
HIGH-FIVE ME, MY LOYAL FOOT SOLDIER!

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# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Lincoln Peirce** has been drawing the *Big Nate* comic strip for 20 years. Born in Ames, Iowa, Peirce grew up in Durham, New Hampshire. As a kid, he began creating his own strips in the sixth grade. Peirce taught high school in New York City and has created several animated pilots for Cartoon Network and Nickelodeon. He lives in Portland, Maine, with his family.